

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1           1. A baby holding device, comprising:
  - 2           a support structure comprising a base that is adapted to be placed onto a
  - 3           support surface and a frame angularly positioned relative to the base; and
  - 4           a seat coupled to the frame that is adapted to hold a baby;
  - 5           wherein the seat includes a generally curved outer padded section having a
  - 6           medial region that is adapted to receive the baby's head and a pair of arms extending from the
  - 7           medial region, and wherein the padded section defines an inner well section that is adapted to
  - 8           receive the baby's torso.
- 1           2. A device as in claim 1, wherein the arms each include a rounded end,  
2           and wherein the ends generally face each other and are adapted to assist in cushioning the  
3           weight of the baby.
- 1           3. A device as in claim 1, further comprising a securing system that is  
2           configured to hold the baby within the seat.
- 1           4. A device as in claim 3, wherein the securing system comprises a center  
2           holding strap that is coupled to the seat and is configured to be placed between the baby's  
3           legs and at least one securing strap extending from the holding strap that is configured to  
4           wrap about the baby's torso and be connected to a seat strap that is coupled to the seat.
- 1           5. A device as in claim 4, wherein the center holding strap is coupled to  
2           the seat at a location to permit the baby's feet to hang from seat.
- 1           6. A device as in claim 1, wherein the frame comprises a pair of inclined  
2           sections and at least one curved section.
- 1           7. A device as in claim 6, wherein the curved section generally follows an  
2           outer periphery of the padded section to define a generally open interior of the frame.
- 1           8. A device as in claim 6, wherein the inclined sections each include a  
2           curved portion that connects to the base.

1                   9.       A device as in claim 1, wherein the medial region has a height in the  
2 range from about 1 inch to about 6 inches and a width in the range from about 8 inches to  
3 about 16 inches.

1                   10.      A device as in claim 1, wherein the arms have a height in the range  
2 from about 1 inch to about 6 inches, a width in the range from about 6 inches to about 12  
3 inches, and a length in the range from about 10 inches to about 20 inches.

1                   11.      A device as in claim 1, wherein the inner well section has a width in  
2 the range from about 4 inches to about 12 inches and a length in the range from about 6  
3 inches to about 14 inches.

1                   12.      A device as in claim 1, wherein the seat comprises a fabric.

1                   13.      A device as in claim 1, wherein the padded section comprises a fill  
2 material.

1                   14.      A device as in claim 1, wherein the frame is positioned at an angle in  
2 the range from about 20° to about 40° relative to the base.

1                   15.      A method for holding a baby, the method comprising:  
2                   providing a baby seat comprising a support structure comprising a base that  
3 rests upon a support surface and a frame angularly positioned relative to the base, and a seat  
4 coupled to the frame, wherein the seat has a generally curved outer padded section that  
5 includes a medial region and two arms that define a well section; and  
6                   placing a baby onto the seat, with the baby's torso resting in the well section  
7 and being cushioned by ends of the arms, and with the baby's head resting on the medial  
8 region.

1                   16.      A method as in claim 15, further comprising applying a downward  
2 force on the frame to cause the seat to move in an up and down motion.

1                   17.      A method as in claim 15, further comprising strapping the baby to the  
2 seat.

1                   18.      A method as in claim 15, wherein the baby is positioned in the seat  
2 such that the baby's legs hang down past the seat.

1                   19. A method as in claim 15, further comprising generally preventing the  
2 baby from rolling side to side using the arms.

1                   20. A baby holding device comprising:  
2                   a pillow having a medial region and two opposing arms extending from the  
3 medial region that define an inner well region;  
4                   a securing system operably coupled to the pillow, wherein the securing system  
5 comprises a center holding strap that is configured to be placed between the baby's legs so as  
6 to extend over at least a portion of the baby's torso and be operably coupled to the opposing  
7 arms to hold the baby within the well region.

1                   21. A device as in claim 20, wherein the securing system further comprises  
2 a side strap extending from each arm, wherein the side straps include connectors that are  
3 connectable to mating connectors on the center holding strap.

1                   22. A device as in claim 21, wherein the connectors comprise buckle  
2 connectors.

1                   23. A device as in claim 20, wherein the securing system further comprises  
2 a seat that is disposed across the well region.

1                   24. A device as in claim 23, wherein the seat comprises a fabric coupled to  
2 the arms and the medial region.

1                   25. A device as in claim 23, wherein the center strap is coupled to the seat  
2 at a location to permit the baby's feet to hang from the seat.

1                   26. A device as in claim 20, further comprising a hood operably coupled to  
2 the pillow.

1                   27. A device as in claim 26, wherein the hood is foldable.

1                   28. A device as in claim 20, wherein the medial region has a height in the  
2 range from about 1 inches to about 10 inches and a width in the range from about 4 inches to  
3 about 10 inches.

1               29.     A device as in claim 20, wherein the arms have a height in the range  
2     from about 1 inches to about 6 inches, a width in the range from about 4 inches to about 10  
3     inches, and a length in the range from about 10 inches to about 20 inches.

1               30.     A device as in claim 20, wherein the well region has a width in the  
2     range from about 4 inches to about 12 inches and a length in the range from about 4 inches to  
3     about 12 inches.

1               31.     A device as in claim 20, wherein the pillow further comprises a fabric  
2     shell encasing a fill material.

1               32.     A method for holding a bay, the method comprising:  
2               providing a baby holding device comprising a pillow having a medial region  
3     and two opposing arms extending from the medial region that define an inner well region,  
4     and a securing system operably coupled to the pillow, wherein the securing system comprises  
5     a center holding strap that is operably coupled to the pillow;  
6               placing a baby's torso into the well region, with the baby's torso being  
7     cushioned by ends of the arms, and with the baby's head resting on the medial region;  
8               placing the center holding strap between the baby's legs so as to extend over at  
9     least a portion of the baby's torso; and  
10              securing the center holding strap to the arms.

1               33.     A method as in claim 32, further comprising placing a hood over the  
2     baby.

1               34.     A method as in claim 32, wherein the center holding strap is secured to  
2     the arms by coupling the center holding strap to side straps extending from the arms.

1               35.     A method as in claim 32, wherein the securing system further  
2     comprises a seat that is disposed across the well region, and wherein the baby is placed onto  
3     the seat.